

April Town Meeting Agenda

April 30, 2001 7:30 p.m.

Introduction of the 2001/2002 Town Budget
Public Hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate
Presentation of the Chesapeake Bay Partner Award

Residential Parking Permit Stickers

A special notice will be sent to all homes in the Town
on designated permit parking streets.

The notice will tell you the procedure for applying
for your sticker(s) and visitor passes.

Farmers' Market

The Farmers Market opens on May 5th, 8 a.m. -12 p.m.
Town lot adjacent to the Train Station
cut flowers, plants, fresh produce &
(new!) homemade doggie treats

Contact us at 3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington, MD 20895. Phone: 301-949-2424
FAX: 301-949-4925. E-mail: mayor.council@tok.org

Celebrate Earth/Arbor Day

The Town of Kensington will be holding our annual celebration on April 28, 2001, from 10 a.m.- 12 noon at Town Hall, 3710 Mitchell Street. There will be a visit from Smokey the Bear, games, prizes, information, displays, and the winners of the Kensington Parkwood Elementary School poster contest.

2001 Founders' Day Weekend: May 4-5

Join in the celebration by attending the Old Town Kensington 6th Garden Party on May 4th from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, the 5th, the Kensington Historical Society will host walking tours of the Historic District. Tickets are \$5.00. Tours will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The festivities will culminate in a Town picnic from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Flinn Park. The "Spirit of Kensington" award will be presented at this time. In case of rain, this event will take place at St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

A Message from the Traffic Committee

Traffic and pedestrian safety is a major priority for the Town of Kensington. On all streets, in and through Town, traffic exceeds the speed limit and many vehicles fail to stop fully, or at all, at stop signs. Please help us keep our Town safe and pedestrian friendly by obeying the traffic speeds and signs. It is also important to remember that the volume of car stereos should be turned down – not everyone may enjoy the same type of music you do. Thank you for your help.

Town's Summer Meeting Schedule

May 21, 2001: 7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession
June 18, 2001: 7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession
July 2, 2001: 7:00 p.m. Organizational Meeting
July 30, 2001: 7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession
August 27, 2001: 7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession

Maryland's 157

This book, developed by the Maryland Municipal League and its member cities and towns, is a portrait of life in Maryland's municipalities. The book has been given to every public and private school and library in the State. This informative volume, with its section on Kensington, is available at the Town Office for \$32.

Police Warn Public About Distraction-Type Thefts

The Montgomery County Police are reporting a rash of crimes by pickpockets preying on the elderly. Stay alert and be attentive to anyone who approaches you in a public area and asks you to assist him or her. Protect your valuables by not carrying large amounts of cash and by securing your wallet in a safe inside pocket.

If you have been victimized by this type of crime, please contact the Police at the non-emergency number of (301)279-8000.

Building Permits Issued

Deck at 3906 Prospect Street
Renovations at 10520 Wheatley Street
Demolition of canopy at 10515 Connecticut Avenue

Mayor's Report

Howard Avenue

You may have seen the contractors on Howard Ave. They have started to measure and mark the street for Phase II. Construction begins on Monday, April 2, 2001.

Metropolitan Avenue

Washington Gas is starting work on March 29th. They will be parking vehicles on the Town property on Kensington Parkway for about two weeks. The State Highway Administration will start construction in May. PEPCO has pole relocation on its schedule and will start at any time. We will be given notice before construction begins.

Meetings or Events Attended by the Mayor

The Mayor met with the State Highway Administration this month to discuss the proposed streetscape on Knowles Avenue next to the Kensington Shopping Center. If State Highway designs a plan that can be achieved without loss of parking to the property owner than the owner will work with us to accomplish the needed improvements through an easement on their property.

Mayor Raufaste attended a Kensington Business District Association breakfast. She is pleased with the improved communication and cooperation between the business owners and the Town.

The Mayor attended a Legislative Committee Meeting in Annapolis this month. There will be one more meeting in May.

The Mayor attended the March 14th Historic Preservation Commission Hearing and testified on behalf of the Town on a retroactive permit application at 3802 Washington Street. The HPC approved a twelve foot wide driveway and a three and one half wide sidewalk that will lead to a handicap ramp.

A Banner Committee meeting was held to discuss the prototype on Howard Avenue at Fawcett Street. The committee after much discussion decided to have a new banner designed for consideration.

The Mayor attended a meet and confer Maryland Municipal League Chapter meeting with the County Council. Council Members O'Donnell, Pfautz and Tucker were also in attendance.

The Kensington Volunteer Fire Dept. had its 76th Annual Dinner Dance this month. The Mayor was an invited guest. Many awards were given to our firefighters. We are fortunate to have a firehouse with great volunteer firefighters right in the middle of our Town.

Clum Kennedy Gardens are being professionally prepared for spring. If you haven't had a chance to see the garden you should take a walk and enjoy the spring beauty of the park at its best. Soon everything will be in bloom.

We thank Elsie Thull for chairing another great indoor yard sale.

Council Member Pfautz's Report

Traffic & Safety

Council Member Pfautz attended the Preservation Issues Panel on March 12th. Thanks to Carl Mahaney, George Myers, Helen Wilkes, Barry Peoples, Gwen Wright (Historic Preservation Coordinator), and Sterling Mehring for their important contribution to this panel. Also, thanks to Royce Hanson who did a great job of moderating the panel. She recommends all Town residents watch this panel discussion when it is aired on the municipal cable channel. These issues are important to all of us.

She attended the Maryland Municipal League Chapter Meeting on March 15th. County Councilmembers briefed attendees on important County issues. The municipalities in attendance raised traffic calming as a major area of concern.

The Kensington Traffic Committee met on March 20th. A meeting summary is enclosed.

Council Member Tucker's Report

Parks & Trees

Council Member Tucker attended the Tree Committee Meeting, Montgomery County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League Meeting with the County Council, and a Historic Preservation Commission meeting.

Worksession of Mayor & Council

March 5, 2001 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Raufaste, Council Members Bruch, O'Donnell and Tucker, Clerk Treasurer McAuley, Director of Public Works Joel and Code Enforcement Officer Hamilton were present and the following issues were addressed:

Historic Area Work Permit Applications:

3922 Washington Street-Council Member O'Donnell moved to support the application for landscaping plans. Seconded and passed unanimously with the Mayor concurring.

3802 Washington Street-Council Member Bruch moved to reaffirm support of Circle 13 as presented by HPC staff. Seconded and passed with Council Members Bruch and O'Donnell in favor; Council Member Tucker opposed. The Mayor concurred with the majority decision.

Ms. McAuley will forward a letter to the Historic Preservation Commission stating these decisions.

Director of Public Works Joel and Clerk Treasurer McAuley will provide the Mayor and Council with a cost comparison of contracting trash removal versus keeping this work in-house.

The Director of Public Works office will remain at the Town Hall. He is taking over the Building Inspector responsibilities that necessitate his availability to permit applicants, document review, and Town files.

The Constant Yield Tax Rate requirements by the State of Maryland were reviewed in preparation for the public hearing at the April Town Meeting.

The summer meeting schedule for the Mayor and Council was set and will be published continuously in the *Journal* during the affected months.

The Project List was reviewed and updated.

The minutes were reviewed for corrections and additions.

Monthly correspondence was reviewed for any actions to be taken.

Budget Meeting

March 24, 2001 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Raufaste, Council Members Bruch, O'Donnell, and Pfautz, Clerk Treasurer McAuley and Director of Public Works Joel were present. The group reviewed projected revenues and expenses for the proposed Fiscal Year 2001/2002 Town Budget. The Proposed Budget will be introduced at the April Town Meeting.

Town Meeting

March 26, 2001

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 p.m. by President Pro Tem Bruch, with Council Members O'Donnell, Pfautz, and Tucker and Clerk Treasurer McAuley present. Mayor Raufaste was necessarily absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Council listened to a presentation by the Montgomery County Police who are enlisting citizen support for the County to consider for its 2003 Budget, purchase of two be used for surveillance and pursuit.

The Town will send a letter to the State Highway Administration asking that it verify the signal timing for the Connecticut Avenue/Washington Street pedestrian signal to see

whether the signal timing can be improved. Persons have complained that there is a long period between the time the pedestrian presses the button and the signal changes.

Council Actions

Council Member O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes as printed. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Council Member O'Donnell moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Spencer Harrill, Eleanor Condliffe, Jay Kaiser, and Wat Stewart to the Board of Supervisors of Elections. Seconded and passed with Council Members Bruch, O'Donnell, and Pfautz in favor; Council Member Tucker opposed.

There being no further Business, the Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat McAuley, Clerk Treasurer

*The Town of Kensington expresses its deepest
condolences to the family of Mr. & Mrs. James Hawkins
on the loss of their parents, members of our business
community who contributed so much to the quality of life
in our Town*